Council Proceedings.

Council Chamber, March 15th, 1883.

A special meeting of the City Council was held last night for the purpose of considering certain matters in connection with the London Junction Railway. At the appointed hour (7:30) Mayor Meredith and Ald. Birrell, Browne, Cowan, Boyd, O Meara and Becher were present.

Mayor Meredith explained that the object for calling the meeting was to pass a by-law to extend the time for the completion of the London Junction Railway, in compliance with a request from the Credit Valley. Under present arrangements the road must be completed by November of the present year, and if, through unforeseen circumstances, the road was not then completed the company would forfeit the privileges of free water and exemption from taxation. The following letter from the Solicitor of the Credit Valley Railway was then read:—

"Toronto, 13th March, 1883.

"John McClary, Esq., London:—

'RE LONDON JUNCTION RAILWAY COMPANY

"DEAR SIR,—Referring to the agreement entered into by the London Junction Railway Company and myself as representing the Credit Valley Railway Company, dated 13th January last, I notice that it calls for a notification from me to you on or before the 15th of March, if I should desire to be relieved from the obligation therein contained, the building of the London Junction Railway.

"It is the intention of each of the parties for whom I am acting to go on and build the road with all possible speed, but the time fixed for its completion is too short under existing circumstances.

"You are aware that the Credit Valley Railway Company have a Bill before the House at Ottawa, asking that certain rights which they now have of entering this city through the Northern Railway yard (which rights are forfeited if they amalgamate or enter into a lease with any other railway) may be confirmed to them, notwithstanding the amalgamation with the London Junction or the Ontario & Quebec.

"I have no doubt that we shall be able to obtain the relief asked for, as it is so thoroughly in the interests of the country, as well as in our own interests and those of your city, but you will readily understand that, while the Bill is before the House, it would be unwise to attempt any building of the London Junction road.

"I hope within a very short time to have the plans of the road completed and filed so that we can proceed to acquire right of way, and we hope to let the contract for building the line immediately on getting the Bill now before Parliament passed.

"Under the circumstances I must ask you to have a by-law passed extending the time for the completion of the work. I should like the time extended until, say the 1st of August, 1884, as it may be impossible to have it completed in a proper way this year. It is going to be a very difficult matter to get ties, and it may be a much longer job than we anticipated acquiring the right of way into London.

"I have found out the very great difficulty and the unavoidable delay that may occur in getting into a city, in my experience in the Ontario & Quebec Railway, getting their entrance into Toronto.

"Please let me know at once what action you can take in the matter, and how soon you can get a by-law passed extending the time for the completion of the road.

'Yours truly, E. B. OSLER."

Mr. John McClary, President of the London Junction Railway Company, and M. D. Fraser were heard in support of the extension.

Ald. Cowan moved that the by-law extending the time be now read.

Ald. Becher seconded the motion.

The by-law extending the time for the completion of the London Junction Railway from November, 1883, to 1st August, 1884, was then read a first and second time.

The by-law was read a third time and passed.